

limit on the retroactive period. I have introduced legislation to allow family members to continue the claims of veterans who die while a claim is pending. This provision is a good first step. The government should not be allowed to deny retroactive payments when the government's inaction is responsible for delayed adjudication of a claim.

Again, I thank my colleagues on the Veterans' Affairs Committee for their hard work and I urge my colleagues to vote to pass this legislation.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as an original sponsor of H.R. 1460, as amended, the "Veterans Entrepreneurship and Benefits Improvement Act of 2003. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation. I commend representative RENZI, Chairman SMITH and Ranking Member EVANS of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, and Chairman MANZULLO and Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ of the Small Business Committee for bringing this important legislation to the floor for consideration.

I especially want to comment on sections two and three of the bill.

Section two would allow veterans, disabled veterans, dependents of totally disabled or deceased veterans, and active-duty members of the Selected Reserve to use their VA benefits to pursue pre-entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship courses offered under the auspices of Small Business Development Centers and the National Veterans Business Development Corporation. Small businesses in the last decade accounted for about 70 percent of the new jobs created in our economy.

The men and women who have served in our military indeed are engaging and resourceful individuals. Indeed, the 1999 report of the bipartisan Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance found the following: "a 5-year profile survey of veteran-owned businesses in Massachusetts conducted in the late 1980's and early 1990's showed that a pool of approximately 2,000 veterans engaged in micro businesses generated \$74 million in taxable income for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." And that is just in one state. With the availability of training under this bill, more veterans will be able to obtain the skills they need to start and grow their own small businesses. As Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Dr. Leo S. Mackay, Jr. testified at our April 30th hearing, "the potential for positive effects on the economy, with enhanced competition and creativity within the marketplace, is significant."

Section three of the bill would place disabled veteran-owned and controlled small businesses on a par with socially and economically disadvantaged veterans in the 8(a) contracting program for procurement contracts offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the next four years. This authority would apply to "setaside" and restricted competition contracts to be applied by contracting officers on a discretionary basis. For all Federal agencies, disabled veteran-owned and controlled small businesses would rank ahead of HUBZone and women-owned businesses in procurement preferences, but behind the 8(a) program. I find these types of preference as a needed 'first step' because of two additional findings of the Transition Commission: first, "Disabled-veteran entrepreneurs require additional assistance because these business

owners encounter costs and impediments that are not factors for their non-disabled competitors. Second, as a matter of fundamental fairness, Congress should accord veterans a full opportunity to participate in the economic system that their service sustains."

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would note for the RECORD that the current independent Task Force for Veterans Entrepreneurship, the aforementioned Transition Commission, the 1981 expert report of the SBA Veterans Project, and the 1980 White House Conference on Small Business all recommended some type of federal "setaside" authority for disabled-veteran owned and controlled small businesses in the purchase of goods and services.

I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1460. The provisions of this legislation remove barriers to small business ownership for veterans. H.R. 1460 allows veterans to use their education benefits to pay for non-degree or non-credit courses of entrepreneurship, enabling them to learn the skills that they will need when starting and running their own businesses. The bill additionally amends the Small Business Act to give small businesses owned by service disabled veterans the opportunity to secure sole source contracts from the Federal Government. By giving those participating in a veteran's rehabilitation program the chance to name self-employment as their vocational goal, H.R. 1460 makes entrepreneurship a viable career option for many for whom it was not before.

The passage of this legislation would mean a lot for those veterans who, like so many other Americans, dream of working for themselves. The opportunities that H.R. 1460 provides for self-employment are especially meaningful when salaried jobs can be so difficult to find. Large numbers of veterans live in my home district of El Paso, Texas where we unfortunately also have a high unemployment rate. A community like mine is a prime example of why we must provide veterans with the tools they need to become successful entrepreneurs. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1460, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas-and-nays.

The yeas-and-nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1460, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on four motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 264, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 177, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 209, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 2465, by the yeas and nays.

Proceedings on H.R. 1460 will resume tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF ALGERIAN EARTHQUAKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 264.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 264, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 382, nays 1, not voting 51, as follows:

[Roll No. 297]

YEAS—382

Abercrombie	Baca	Barrett (SC)
Ackerman	Bachus	Bartlett (MD)
Aderholt	Baird	Barton (TX)
Akin	Baker	Bass
Alexander	Baldwin	Beauprez
Allen	Ballance	Becerra
Andrews	Ballenger	Bell

Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggett
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
 Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cooper
Costello
Cox
Crane
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Foley
Forbes

Ford
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hunter
Hyde
Inlee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
 (TX)
Janklow
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Kline
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (KY)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney

Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
 McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Ney
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pascrell
Pastor
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez, Linda
 T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sandlin
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff

Schrock
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Sherman
Sherwood
Shuster
Simmons
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns

Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner (OH)
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen

Visclosky
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Ballance
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Becerra
Bell
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggett
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
 Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cooper
Costello
Cox
Crane
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell

[Roll No. 298]

YEAS—380

Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley (OR)
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hunter
Hyde
Inlee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
 (TX)
Janklow
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)

King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Kline
Knollenberg
Kucinich
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larsen (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (KY)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
 McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Ney
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—51

Berman
Brown, Corrine
Burton (IN)
Capuano
Conyers
Cramer
Crowley
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Deal (GA)
DeMint
Feeney
Fletcher
Fossella
Gephardt
Houghton
Hulshof
Istook
Jefferson
Kilpatrick
Kirk
Kolbe
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (OK)
Menendez
Mollohan
Nadler
Nethercutt
Northup
Pallone
Payne
Pomeroy
Pryce (OH)
Rogers (KY)
Ros-Lehtinen
Sanders
Shays
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (WA)
Sullivan
Taylor (NC)
Tiahrt
Toomey
Velazquez
Weiner
Weldon (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) (during the vote). The Chair would advise Members they have 2 minutes in which to record their vote.

□ 1853

Mr. MCINNIS and Mr. MOORE changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA FOR CONDUCTING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AND PEACEFUL AND ORDERLY TRANSFER OF POWER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 177, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 177, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 380, nays 0, not voting 54, as follows: